

Current Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Previously Presented) The particle of claim 8, wherein the second coating layer substantially covers the first coating layer.
3. (Previously Presented) The particle of claim 8, wherein the active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug, acetaminophen, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine, chlorpheniramine, dextromethorphan, diphenhydramine, dimenhydrinate, meclizine, famotidine, loperamide, ranitidine, cimetidine, astemizole, loratadine, desloratadine, fexofenadine, cetirizine, antacids, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, metabolites thereof, and mixtures thereof.
4. (Previously Presented) The particle of claim 8, wherein the taste masking agent is further comprised of an enteric polymer.
5. (Original) The particle of claim 4, wherein the enteric polymer is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose acetate succinate, cellulose acetate phthalate, and mixtures thereof.
6. (Previously Presented) The particle of claim 8, wherein the insoluble film forming polymer is selected from the group consisting of cellulose acetate, ethylcellulose, and mixtures thereof.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Currently Amended) A texture masked particle comprising
 - a) a core containing an active ingredient;

b) a first coating layer comprised of a taste masking agent that substantially covers the core, wherein said taste masking agent is comprised of an insoluble film forming polymer; and

c) a second coating layer on the surface of the first coating layer, the second coating layer ~~comprised~~ consisting essentially of

i) a water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer; and

ii) an anti-grit agent selected from the group consisting of polyethylene oxide, polyethylene glycol, and mixtures thereof,

wherein the weight ratio of water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer to anti-grit agent in the second coating layer is in the range of about 20:80 to about 80:20.

9. (Previously Presented) The particle of claim 8 wherein the water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, and sodium carboxy methyl cellulose, starches, alginates, polyvinyl alcohols, xanthan gums, guar gums, polysaccharides, pectins, gelatins, and mixtures thereof.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The particle of claim 8 wherein the second coating layer is comprised of a mixture of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose and polyethylene glycol.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The particle of claim 8 wherein the weight ratio of water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer to anti-grit agent in the second coating layer is in the range of about 50:50.

14. (Previously Presented) An oral dosage form comprised of the particles of claim 8 and at least one excipient.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The oral dosage form of claim 18, wherein the first coating layer is substantially free of plasticizer.

17. (Previously Presented) The oral dosage form of claim 18, wherein the active ingredient is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug, acetaminophen, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine, chlorpheniramine, dextromethorphan, diphenhydramine, dimenhydrinate, meclizine, famotidine, loperamide, ranitidine, cimetidine, astemizole, loratadine, desloratadine, fexofenadine, cetirizine, antacids, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, metabolites thereof, and mixtures thereof.

18. (Previously Presented) The oral dosage form of claim 14, wherein the oral dosage form is selected from a lozenge, a chewable tablet, and a rapidly dissolving tablet.

19. (Previously Presented) The oral dosage form of claim 18 wherein the water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, and sodium carboxy methyl cellulose, starches, alginates, polyvinyl alcohols, xanthan gums, guar gums, polysaccharides, pectins, gelatins, and mixtures thereof.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The oral dosage form of claim 18 wherein the second coating layer is comprised of a mixture of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose and polyethylene glycol.

22. (Previously Presented) The oral dosage form of claim 18 wherein the weight ratio of water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer to anti-grit agent in the second coating layer is in the range of about 50:50 to about 50:50.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) The oral dosage form of claim 18, wherein the first coating layer is substantially free of plasticizer.

25 – 30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A method of texture masking particles comprising an active ingredient, which comprises:

a) applying a substantially continuous first coating layer over the particles, the first coating layer comprising a taste masking agent, wherein said taste masking agent is comprised of an insoluble film forming polymer; and

b) applying a second coating layer on the surface of the first coating layer, the second coating layer ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a mixture of 1) a water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer; and 2) an anti-grit agent selected from the group consisting of polyethylene oxide, polyethylene glycol, and mixtures thereof, wherein the wherein the weight ratio of water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer to anti-grit agent in the second coating layer is in the range of about 20:80 to about 80:20.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the active ingredient is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug, acetaminophen, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine, chlorpheniramine, dextromethorphan, diphenhydramine, dimenhydrinate, meclizine, famotidine, loperamide, ranitidine, cimetidine, astemizole, loratadine, desloratadine, fexofenadine, cetirizine, antacids, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, metabolites thereof, and mixtures thereof.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31 wherein the water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, and sodium carboxy methyl cellulose, starches, alginates, polyvinyl alcohols, xanthan gums, guar gums, polysaccharides, pectins, gelatins, and mixtures thereof.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Original) The method of claim 31 wherein the second coating layer is comprised of a mixture of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose and polyethylene glycol.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31 wherein the weight ratio of film forming polymer to anti-grit agent in the second coating layer is in the range of about 60:40 to about 40:60.

37- 72. (Cancelled)

73. (Currently Amended) A texture masked particle comprising

- a) a core containing an active ingredient;
- b) a first coating layer comprised of a taste masking agent that substantially covers the core, wherein said taste masking agent is comprised of an insoluble film forming polymer; and
- c) a second coating layer on the surface of the first coating layer, the second coating layer ~~comprised~~ consisting essentially of

- i) a water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer; and
- ii) an anti-grit agent selected from the group consisting of polyethylene oxide, polyethylene glycol, and mixtures thereof,

wherein said particle has an average diameter of about 50 microns to about 500 microns and the weight ratio of water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer to anti-grit agent in the second coating layer is in the range of about 20:80 to about 80:20.

74. (Previously Presented) The oral dosage form of claim 18, wherein the oral dosage form is a chewable tablet or a rapidly disintegrating tablet, and the excipient is comprised of a water soluble compressible carbohydrate.

75. (Currently Amended) An oral dosage form comprised of:

- A) texture masked particles comprising
 - 1) a core containing an active ingredient;
 - 2) a first coating layer comprising

- i) a cellulose acetate taste masking agent; and
 - ii) a non enteric, water soluble polymer,
- said first coating layer substantially covering the core; and
- 3) a second coating layer on the surface of the first coating layer, the second coating layer ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of:
- i) a water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer; and
 - ii) an anti-grit agent selected from the group consisting of polyethylene oxide, polyethylene glycol, and mixtures thereof,
- wherein the weight ratio of water soluble and/or water swellable film forming polymer to anti-grit agent in the second coating layer is in the range of about 20:80 to about 80:20; and
- B) at least one excipient.

76. (Previously Presented) The oral dosage form of claim 75, wherein the non-enteric, water soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl cellulose, poly(ethylacrylate, methyl methacrylate), and mixtures thereof.